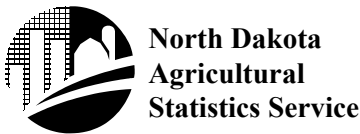


NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Released: September 15, 2003
For Week Ending: September 14, 2003
ND-CW3703

Cooperating With:
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN) and
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER
INFORMATION CENTER

General: Most of the state received welcome rains which increased topsoil moisture supplies, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. However, the rains came too late to benefit the late season crops. A statewide average of 5.1 days were suitable for fieldwork. Statewide, topsoil moisture supplies on September 14 increased 18 percentage points from the previous week in the adequate rating. Current topsoil moisture supplies were rated 24 percent very short, 43 short, 33 adequate and 0 surplus. This compares to 16 percent very short, 29 short, 52 adequate and 3 surplus last year.

Crops: Cool, wet weather last week slowed the completion of the durum wheat harvest. However, durum harvest is still ahead of last year and the five-year (1998-2002) average. As of September 14, 97 percent of the durum wheat crop was harvested compared to 66 percent last year and the average of 72 percent.

Late season crops continue to advance rapidly despite cool, wet weather later in the week. Thirty-five percent of the corn crop was mature compared to 22 percent last year and the average of 30 percent. Soybeans had 55 percent of the crop mature with leaves dropping compared to 57 percent last year and the average of 48 percent. Soybean harvest has just begun. Forty-three percent of the dry edible bean crop was harvested compared to 19 percent last year and the average of 30 percent. Ninety-six percent of the canola crop was harvested compared to 79 percent last year and the average of 81 percent. Flaxseed harvest was 88 percent complete compared to 59 percent complete last year and the average of 64 percent. Sugarbeet lifting was 5 percent complete, ahead of last year and the average. Potato harvest is underway with 18 percent of the crop dug, equal to last year and the average.

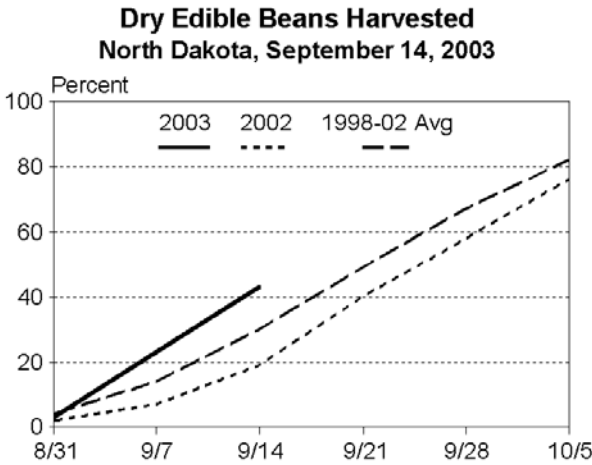
Corn crop condition ratings were 39 percent good to excellent, compared to 60 percent last year. Soybeans were rated 40 percent good to excellent, down from 60 percent last year. Sunflowers were rated 50 percent good to excellent, equal to last year.

Livestock: Pasture and rangeland condition ratings declined slightly from the previous week. Pasture conditions were rated 58 percent very poor to poor, compared with 56 percent the previous week and 57 percent last year. Stockwater supplies were rated 17 percent very short, 33 short, 50 adequate and 0 surplus compared to 20 percent very short, 22 short, 56 adequate and 2 surplus last year.

Crop Development Progress ^{1/} September 14, 2003 with Comparisons				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	1998-02 Avg.
(Percent)				
DURUM WHEAT				
Combined	97	92	66	72
CANOLA				
Combined	96	91	79	81
CORN				
Dented	94	84	81	89
Mature	35	18	22	30
Harvested for Grain	1	NA	0	0
CORN FOR SILAGE				
Chopped	72	50	26	27
DRY EDIBLE BEANS				
Mature Leaves Dropping	94	79	81	86
Cut and Beyond	61	41	39	47
Harvested	43	23	19	30
FLAXSEED				
Combined	88	78	59	64
POTATOES				
Vines Killed	72	58	78	76
Dug	18	8	18	18
SOYBEANS				
Lower Leaves Yellowing	89	69	91	81
Mature Leaves Dropping	55	27	57	48
Harvested	2	NA	2	3
SUGARBEETS				
Lifted	5	3	1	4
SUNFLOWER				
Ray Flowers Dried/Dropped	95	87	89	93
Bracts Turned Yellow	74	52	66	69
Bracts Turned Brown	21	NA	15	25

^{1/} Crop development percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage. NA= Not Available

Crop and Pasture Condition Week Ending September 14, 2003					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
(Percent)					
Corn, All	9	17	35	37	2
Soybeans	7	16	37	38	2
Sugarbeets	2	5	23	64	6
Sunflowers	4	13	33	44	6
Pasture and Range	22	36	30	12	0



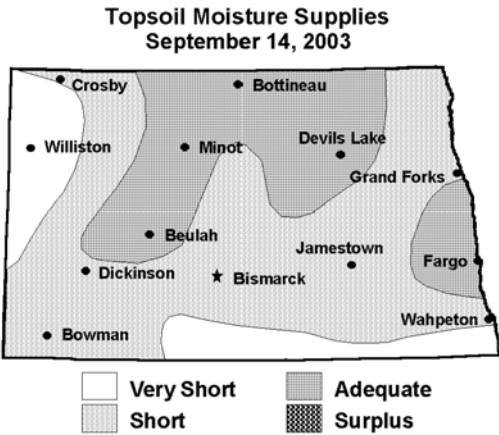
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NORTH DAKOTA CROP WEATHER REPORT, Week Ending September 14, 2003

Soil Moisture: North Dakota, September 14, 2003

Date	V. Short	Short	Adq.	Surplus
(Percent)				
TOPSOIL				
This Week	24	43	33	0
Last Week	44	41	15	0
Last Year	16	29	52	3
98-02 Avg	11	25	58	6
SUBSOIL				
This Week	34	40	26	0
Last Week	37	40	23	0
Last Year	16	30	51	3
98-02 Avg	10	24	60	6



Weather: The previous week started off very warm with temperatures in the 80s but a very September-like weather pattern moved into place for the remainder of the week. Cooler more seasonable temperatures dominated, yet the average temperatures for the week were about 10 degrees above normal. The big news was the large amount of rain that fell across the southwestern part of the state. Rainfall amounts for Hettinger were just below 4.00 inches, while the average rainfall for the southwest was just under 3.00 inches. With the vast coverage of the system that worked its way into the state midweek, most areas received some needed rain.

Outlook, September 15-21: Partly cloudy skies and high temperatures into the 70s will be in place for the beginning of the week, to be followed by another blast of cool Canadian air. With this cooler air moving in, expect showers and thunderstorms across the region from Tuesday through Thursday, to be followed by partly cloudy skies and high temperatures in the 60s and lows in the 30s and 40s.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
North Dakota, Week ending September 14, 2003

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning March 29		
	Past Week	Depart Normal ^{1/}	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{1/}
(Degrees F)			(Inches)		
Northwest (1)	66	10	0.69	8.77	-2.69
N. Central (2)	68	13	1.65	9.30	-3.96
Northeast (3)	69	11	0.54	10.44	-2.17
W. Central (4)	66	8	0.79	9.54	-2.76
Central (5)	66	8	0.59	12.97	-0.01
E. Central (6)	69	10	0.61	11.77	-2.07
Southwest (7)	66	8	2.70	10.14	-1.71
S. Central (8)	67	8	0.75	10.19	-1.45
Southeast (9)	67	8	0.56	14.18	0.91

^{1/} Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA = Not Available.
Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND
Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
North Dakota, Week ending September 14, 2003

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning March 29		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{1/}
(Degrees F)			(Inches)		
(1) Bowbells	89	39	0.26	6.74	-4.68
Williston	89	45	0.25	7.86	-1.73
Mohall	89	46	0.73	10.58	-1.80
Minot	89	45	1.50	9.90	-2.56
(2) Baker	87	47	1.97	10.34	-4.48
Bottineau	90	46	1.43	7.97	-5.44
Towner	92	48	1.56	9.60	-1.96
(3) Cando	87	49	1.69	11.14	-0.95
Cavalier	88	52	0.25	10.24	-2.97
Forest River	89	52	0.28	9.92	-2.74
Grand Forks	85	49	0.16	11.44	-1.12
Langdon	85	49	0.60	10.06	-2.39
St. Thomas	90	50	0.28	9.83	-2.83
(4) Hazen	89	46	2.12	10.75	-1.99
Turtle Lake	86	47	0.01	10.23	-2.65
Watford City	87	43	0.25	7.64	-3.63
(5) Carrington	85	48	0.74	14.08	1.04
Harvey	88	46	1.45	15.75	2.83
Jamestown	87	48	0.14	13.66	0.76
Robinson	87	45	0.38	10.55	-2.08
Streeter	85	46	0.24	10.82	-2.61
(6) Dazey	86	49	0.36	10.51	-3.80
Fargo	88	52	0.66	11.79	-1.42
Hillsboro	88	48	0.82	13.02	-0.99
(7) Beach	88	44	1.75	11.26	0.38
Bowman	87	45	2.53	8.45	-3.44
Dickinson	85	46	2.58	10.44	-1.68
Hettinger	86	43	3.92	10.39	-2.11
(8) Mandan	88	46	1.01	9.75	-1.40
Linton	88	44	0.48	10.63	-1.50
(9) Edgeley	87	49	0.68	14.01	0.58
Oakes	87	45	0.57	14.91	2.28
Wyndmere	87	46	0.44	13.63	-0.10

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